

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.- 9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A system for accessing electronic mail (e-mail) messages comprising:

an e-mail input module configured to receive input data and to produce an e-mail message comprising a text stream;

a text analyzer configured to receive said text stream and to segment said text stream into one or more lexical elements;

a data store configured to receive said text stream and to receive said lexical elements;

a user input device configured to receive user input and to produce a query; and

an output device,

said text analyzer further configured to receive said query,

said text analyzer further configured to retrieve portions of text contained in said data store based on said query,

said text analyzer coupled to said output device to deliver said portions of text.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said text analyzer is further configured to produce objects, each object corresponding to a portion of said text stream, each object having an associated lexical type.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein said data store is a relational object oriented database.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said e-mail input module is incorporated in an application program.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said application program is an e-mail reader.

15. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said user input device includes a voice-to-text conversion module, wherein voice input is converted to text to produce said query.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said output device includes a text-to-voice conversion module.

17. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said data store is a relational database.

18. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said text analyzer includes a tokenizer to produce plural segments of text from said text stream and to associate tokens with said segments of text.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein said text analyzer further includes a tagger to produce a tagged token by associating a tag with each token.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein said text analyzer further includes a stemmer to produce a stem for each said tagged token.

21. - 36. (Canceled)